1: Glacken E-5 (1951-1952) 1953 AC7 Okinawa AC7

The village is a group of houses, each with [illegible] compound, and these give it an inclosed look. There are few if any gardens or vegetable patches either in the compounds or within the village settlement.

The lanes resemble quiet winding country roads. The rock fences, or the lines of trees or shrubbery often conceal the houses. There is an appearance of loneliness in these lanes and roads, except at busy times of the day when the children return from school. The lack of commercial activity, except for the women carrying rice on their heads to the mill and for the small village stores, contributes to this impression of quiet, which one would expect from the routine of agriculture. At night, when the doors are drawn, and when the flickering and smoky oil lamps are lit, the loneliness and quiet of the village is even more pronounced. The lanes and the roads are deserted, save for an occasional passing truck, bicycle, or three wheeled cycle, and in one of the favorite words of all Okinawans, the place is sabishii.[6]

Since there is little activity in the village other than farming, neighboring villages and distant towns supply the additional needs. At nearby Gushichan village, there are the primary and junior high schools, the post office, the township and agricultural association offices, a barbershop, and some small stores. At Minatogawa, about one and one half miles away, there is a public bath, and across the river from this village, in Horikawa, an occasional play from the Okinawan stage, or a movie. Buses run through the village twice a day and one can make connections to Naha or Itoman, the two most likely places for buying or selling. Or one can take the three wheeled cycles which pass through more frequently.

Physically, the village was much affected by the war. On June 11, 1945, the front line ran through the cultivated area between Hanashiro and Gushichan villages. Hill 95, the scene of fierce fighting was in the vicinity of Hanashiro.[7] One can still see an occasional tank track, abandoned helmets and scattered fragments of war materials in the fields. The village was affected by the war in ways which are now observable indirectly in the makeshift houses, improvised shacks, the roofs of half tile and half thatch, the odd additions to the older buildings partly destroyed, and the lack of drain pipes and water catchment tanks. Houses, which to superficial appearance, have existed for generations, have been rebuilt since the war with grass substituting for the tile roofs. War operations over the cultivated areas also resulted in some loss of land. A long mound in the rice areas, with paths along its ridge, was formerly a road built by the Americans in the final drive toward Mabuni. Almost all the houses in the village were destroyed.

6 This Japanese word suggests both loneliness and melancholy.

7 Okinawa, the last battle, as cited, 437 (illustration), 434-42 on the struggle for Hill 95.

1:Glacken E-5 (1951-1952) 1953 AC7 Okinawa AC7

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## Village Shops and Businesses

Village stores, small in number and modest in size, furnish their own people many essential services, but the offerings differ from place to place in number and kind, so that there are always commercial contacts of a sort with nearby villages or towns. This is brought out in the accompanying table of business and personal service establishments in each of the villages.

Village Shops, Businesses, Personal Service Enterprises

| Type | Number of Enterprises in: | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Hanashiro | Hinatogawa | Nagamo | Matsuda |
| Rice Mills | 1 | a/ | a/ | 1 |
| Sugar Mills | 1 | | 1 | 1 |
| Small Retail Shops | 3 | 5 | 3 | 5 |
| Power Plant | | 1 | b/ | 1 |
| Import Store | c/ | 1 | b/ | 1 |
| Saw Mill | | | | 1 |
| Blacksmith | d/ | d/ | 1 | |
| Retail Butcher Shop | | 1 | | |
| Motion Picture Theatre | e/ | e/ | e/ | f/ |
| Public Bath House | h/ | 2 | h/ | 1 |
| Village Inn | | 1 | | f/ |
| Eating Places | | 1 | | |
| Barbershop | g/ | e/ | a/ | 1 |

a No need for rice mills, no rice grown
b Served by Hinatogawa
c In nearby Asato
d Nagamo serves these and other villages in the township
e In Horikawa, opposite Hinatogawa
f Served by Ginoza village
g Served by Gushichan village

Rice mills (seimaisho) are recent in rural Okinawa. The mill in Hanashiro was installed in 1940. It serves nearby villages. The mill in Matsuda, also a recent introduction, is more modern. In each case, the mill has two machines of Japanese manufacture, one for hulling, the other for polishing.

Sugar mills (seitojo) vary in quality in the communities. Hanashiro has a machine for crushing cane. In Matsuda, war destruction

## Alcoholic Beverages

Japanese and American canned beer
Japanese type sake (a light rice wine resembling sauterne)
Okinawan sake (awamori)

## Miscellaneous

Charcoal sticks
Brass and nickel plated Japanese pipes
Small dishes
Sake bottles
Oil burners to keep mosquitos away
Flashlights, bulbs, and batteries
Matches
Japanese and American tobaccos
Fishing lamps and the ika lamp (fishing villages only)

Transactions are usually on a cash basis, although some customers pay at the end of the week. In one such store, the gross sales averaged ¥600 a day with a net profit of about 10%. (The yen is pegged at 120 to the US dollar). During the day and the early evening, the village stores are meeting places, especially if, like Hinatogawa, several together make up a small business center.

Supplies are delivered to village stores by truck or sometimes by bus. Often the owner goes to the larger towns to buy. Young boys are an important cog in the distribution system. They deliver candies, cookies, and other small articles which are carried in five gallon lard tins on racks over the rear mudguard of their bicycles. They ride up to the store, count out their candies or cookies, receive payment, and cycle on to the next store over a route which includes several villages. These boys work out of larger towns like Itoman and Nago. Baking goods, bread (pan) really a sweet dough with a jelly-like filling, cookies and candies are distributed in this manner. Sometimes housewives make cookies and cakes to sell to village stores.

There is not much house to house selling or soliciting. Occasionally women come to the villages with a selection of ready made clothing or cloth. In Hinatogawa, an itinerant drug vendor periodically goes through the village ringing his bell, selling various Japanese patent medicines mainly for colds, headaches, constipation, and stomach aches.

Import stores (hyakujō), also operated privately, are a different kind of enterprise than the village shop. They have been set up under the American occupation. Larger wholesalers supply the village retailers. These stores deal in a restricted number of commodities, such as rice, flour, soy bean sauce, wheat, and cooking oils. Sales are made to villagers on a rationing system based on the number in the family, its age distribution, pregnancy, and whether the head is engaged in heavy work. The intent of the import stores is to make food available, at reasonable cost, to those who cannot grow their own, or whose own produce